Bloomfield

DEVOTED TO LOCAL INTERESTS, GENERAL NEWS, AND THE DIFFUSION OF USEFUL AND ENTERTAINING KNOWLEDGE.

STEPHEN M. HULIN, Editor and Proprietor.

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And all are slaves beside. Oh! give me liberty! For even were Paradise my prison, Still I should long to lesp the crystal walls.

He is a freeman whom the truth makes free

What is life? 'Tis not to stalk about, and draw fresh air, Of gate upon the sun. "Tis to be free!

Oh. Liberty, thou goddess, heavenly bright, Profuse of bliss and pregnant with delight! Eternal pleasures in thy presence reign, And smiling plenty loads thy wanton train; Eas'd of her load subjection grows more light, And poverty looks cheerful in thy sight; Thou mak'st the gloomy face of nature gay, Giv's beauty to the sun, and pleasure to the day.

WIT AND WISDOM.

First game of life-Bawl.

"Man's mightiest effort is to wait." Gold does not satisfy love; it must b paid in its own coin.

Always locate the bed-post in your mind before putting out the gas. People who are always wishing for some

thing new should try neuralgia. A New York restaurateur announces ready made dinners for miscellaneous appetites. It is said that the world owes every man living, but a great many men are too lazy

A large part of modern religion consists stimating our neighbors.

can only believe it on the report of others do not feel at all at home in all these fine they knew me better. to whom he is made known.

Journal got to a dunning letter. walk on an empty stomach. "Whose stomach?" feebly asked the invalid.

A book entitled "Lectures to Married Men" has appeared in England. Have they not had their share already?

Let no man flatter himself that he kant be spared. There iz more people waiting heart! It was the simple fact, that in our tew step into his shuse than he iz aware ov. household there were no little fledglings to

drippings.—Beecher

News was sent to Mr. Barnum, written on the back of a card, by the elephant trainer, and read as follows: "Mr. Barnum one of other brother has four children, with eight

crib out in the lake, and a yearly divorce. to the man who shall get up a directory to lookout for fresh employment and new di-

The Chicago man who was the recipient mother-in-law, and that's the reason why he doesn't always do what he wants to.

A gentleman unaccustomed to the new method of paying fare in the horse-cars in Lawrence, Mass., was so flustered that he four children, is stationed at F-, in threw a fifty-cent scrip in the box. Find- cottage not much larger than a good-sized ing that he could get no change from the driver, he began to take up fares; he had to forts. I fancied a shadow passed over ride a considerable distance past his designation before he succeeded in getting his Frank's face last evening, as impulsively I

O, the snore, the beautiful snore, filling coverlet, under the sheet, from her dimpled no sick to visit; he has money, and the chin, to her pretty feet! Now rising aloft like a bee in June; now sunk to the wail of of Susan Jane.

HIS BAGGAGE. 'That seat is engaged," said a pretty young maid

As I entered the carriage one day ; "To whom?" . "A young gentleman," pouting, she said "Then where is his baggage, I pray?" Her ruby lips opened like rosebuds in spring, Her face in deep blushes was died, as muttering crossly, "You hateful old thing Why, I am his baggage!" she cried

Bailey, of the Danbury News, writes to his paper from Chicago: A hitching post is a rarity here. When an Eastern man comes across a hitching post in Chicago, he sits down and cries. They fasten horses by a strap to an iron weight which is left on the walk. These weights occupy a prominent position in a runaway. along the street, he don't stop to inquire whether it was the result of carelessness or us," and crawls under a stoop.

OUR ANGEL.

"Of Such is the Kingdom of Heaven." I am the wife of a Methodist minister. the sake of our dear angel child and my me more of my Mamie. For house I would Every three years we say good-by to our poor grieved heart, to take me away from a sit there motionless, watching, staring at friends and our enemies, wherever we are, place where that beautiful form, were it with the rolling waters, praying that the little and take up our abode in a strange place, us, would have been unwelcome. It does form might be cast at my feet. Not in my there to make new friends and-oh! it seem to me they could have frowned upon way, but in His, did God answer those seems inevitable new enemies. I did not Mamie our darling yet she had little prayers. intend to marry a minister—that was years restless feet and busy little hands, and there ago-but when the opportunity offered, is no room for them here. Mamie was as fair shore. Night was coming on ; the sky grew love had wrought such changes in my hard- a flower as ever blossomed; the roundest grey, and the waters looked dark and bitter. ened heart, I would not for the world have face, the fairest head, the pinkest cheeks A chill came over me, and with a shudder I become united to any other. So, as it was and the brightest eyes of all the babies that hid my face in my hands. Scarcely had to be, I married a minister, and-a minister ever grew. Every one said so !- not only done so when, close beside me, I felt the married me. No doubt you all have read Frank and I-but every one. She was near-sweet presence of the Invisible One, and in elaborate descriptions of what the wife of ly two years old when we moved to our "sea- accents the most tender, I heard these presuch a personage has to endure, and time board parish," and her little voice had was when I might have contributed my tes- closed around many words, even then. One less," Then the sun, which had already set, timony in this direction, and have given my of the stranger neighbors, dear woman, experience outside of the class-room! but caught her in her arms at "the society," I was young, and have undergone a change and called her "A little angel without like unto molten gold. As I gazed, spellsince then, and besides my lines have fallen wings." "Just the name for the precious," bound, the waves parted, and upon the in very pleasant places. So, as it is, I have said another; and then all around the room soft, dry earth, disclosed, I saw the prints only to say that some of these accounts are they kissed my baby, and each one reiteravery, very true, while others are entirely ted the pretty new title. Mamie laughed as them to the other shore, and there I beheld false; and that, in the main, I believe these though she knew very well what it all meant, unhealthy recitals are the brain product of and tossed her arms about in great glee, persons far removed from ministers and "Ah, sh !" exclaimed Aunty Curtiss, ob- Him. As he drew her to Himself, the wee

their respective families. We came to H-a month ago. The your wings for a long, long time !" surroundings, though the people are social, "He is dead; but he pays just as well as kind and considerate. I learned last night and her title always clung to her. he ever did," was the reply the Belfast a little fact which I am going to tell you. A physician advised a patient to take a tween two individuals, Mr. B and my Mamie, in her own dialect would, say : husband. They were not unanimous in their vote until just before conference, but awhiles." were about equally divided. Shall I tell you what united them in our favor? I can times say, and then I would shake my head only do it with tearful eyes and an aching and laughingly reply i There is an essential meanness in the litter up this grand place; no little fingers

spills over the cup. When they fill it full stuffed chairs; no little girls to dance on the I say as little of that the spills for if it were too good for my sofa springs and draw hieroglyphics on the would have him one of America's own sons. angel child, then is it too good for me. door steps. "Only himself and wife," said the committee, in council, "whereas the both felt it was Frank's duty to take it and here and wonder if, in the other world, litthe elifants is ded. He dyed uf enforma- mischievous hands and forty unruly fingers to make havoc in this building; eight noisy It is said that Chicago will offer a corner feet to shuffle through these rooms all the lot in the burnt district, the freedom of the day, and eight restless eyes on the constant versions." This statement was sufficient In a body they declared it would never do. of a penknife from Gen. Grant wants to send and with one accord they voted for Frank, it to the Vienna exhibition, but he's got a my husband, and for me, his wife, "his only encumbrance." This is why we two are living in this great, large house, while Mr. B-, with his wife, mother, sister, and dry-goods box, and about as bare of comtold him what I had heard, and all day long he has been so silent and subdued; and vet her chamber from ceiling to floor ! Over the his Sunday sermon is all copied; there are be thinking of what I am, though he avoids ing them raising again, is the beautiful snore my inquiring glances and vouchsafes no not comprehend what it was all about, communication upon the subject. And Iwhat have I done to-day? I have gone ful. "Lift me up, papa," she entreated, about the house as one demented; I have and then with her little arms around his have shut my eyes to this glaring, unpoeti- dit 'e wings if oo and mamma do away !" cal, white paint, that never knew the soil of the parlor this afternoon, I disarranged the disturbed. curtains; I placed the chairs awry; I tossed books upon the floor, and laid a broken cookie on the sill. This done, the door-bell rang; and, frightened, I locked and rushed mittee, and my head grew dizzy and my heart rebellions as I extended my hand and be,

out. It was one of the hard-hearted com-Chicago man sees a runaway horse coming asked him into-the dining-room! He didn't seem to notice anything, not even my accident. He merely says, "Heaven protect cool demeanor. His little girl was sick, perhaps dying; was the minister in? and FREAKS OF A LUNATIC. - A story is told of good-hearted; he interpreted my some- suffocated with grief, and Frank grew haga French gentleman, who, having lost the what triumphant expression immediately, gard and pale in the few days of our stay, in every week, thus giving air, exercise, and bulk of his property through the rascalities and looked at me so reproachfully as he though he whispered over and over, "God of friends to whom he trusted, crowned it drove away. It was wicked I know, but just knows what is best! God help us to enall by the loss of his mental balance, and for for a moment I felt I should like to have dure!" the remainder of his days found his only that man experience how destitute a house H- is a parish by the sea, as I have lelight in riding in omnibusses and passing may be that lacks a little child, and to feel said. Living near the water, the sea always

serving the movement, "you musn't get one turned, waved her hand to me, then

house in which we are living is new : built " Never /" said I, fiercely, " a baby on was our Mamie our little angel! She in the latest style of architecture ; fitted earth is worth half a dozen in heaven," wasn't drowned after all ; God had parted with all the modern inprovements, and fur- whereupon they looked at each other in a the waters, and led her over on dry land to in over-estimating the apostles and under- nished throughout in the most complete funny way, and I suppose they thought the angel's home. manner. In our itinerancy we have not what a strange woman was the minister's No man knows himself as an original : he been accustomed to anything so grand, and wife. They forgave me afterward, when by my face that something had happened

The people's choice of a minister lay be- wings?" the neighbors would enquire; and

"See that you don't," they would some-

"There isn't any danger! she loves her Mamie was four years old, when sad letwish to get the better of any one. The only to mar the paint and the paper, to scatter ters crossed the ocean to Frank, from his selves that there are no little hands and lit competition worthy a wise man is with him- tiny crumbs over the handsome carpets; no mother, who, failing in health, begged to the feet at the parsonage to rain the fine little boys to slide down the polished ban- see "her boy" once more ere she died. I things therein. And to me this grand Two-thirds of men's generosity is what nisters and to play cars with the heavy, did not tell you Frank was an Englishman. house and all its adornments are hateful in

We had a little money laid by, and we And, waiting for Frank to return, I sit go to his aged mother, who waited in a far the children will be considered in the way country for a sight of her only child. As and the golden streets too grand for their the weeks before his departure grew less and precious feet to press. Ah, just here there less, my heart gave way in anticipation, comes on the evening breeze a Spirit voice and with it my health. Then it was that _I have heard it before in my dreams_ the kind people of our congregation threw and it fills my heart with sweetest comfort into my lap a purse which was to take me as, in loving tones, it utters : Forbid them

"And leave our angel?" I questioned, -"Tenoroon," in The Metropolitan.

"With your mother," he replied; she shall come here, and the child will be better to remain. Can you not make this selfdenial, and leave 'soms wings' with her

kissing little Mamie as though we were left her cheeks wet with my tears. She did though her wee baby face was very though t

child, the petition that went up that morn- family fireside by the hour, in hemming

as we landed on a foreign shore.

fares from passengers to the driver, taking a little of the loneliness that steals over one in sight, one forgets what cruel grasping care when change was returned to add to it who sits for hours quite alone in a stillness things are waves, learns to trust them and become inveterate suemies, husband may a sou or two from his own pocket and watch unbroken oh ! in an unendurable quiet ! call them beautiful. Mamie had often wan- desert their wives, wives their husbands. the effect on the receiver. In nine cases Frank has not yet returned. I am rest-dered on the beach to gather shells, while I But a mother's love endures through all; in out of ten, as the story goes, the passenger, less to-night, and my heart is full of long- sat on the rocks near by ; but never, like good repute, in bad repute, in the face of counting over his change and finding the ings unsatisfied. In the year that has other children of the neighnorhood, had the world's condemnation, a mother still driver had cheated himself, would look be- passed I never extended my arms that I she been there by herself to play. I canwildered for a moment and then pocket the could not feel the weight of a little body not account for it now how she came to from his evil ways and repent; still she remoney with a quiet chuckle. The special that used to creep therein; but to-night wander there alone; yet it was there in a members the infan smiles that once filled delight of the lunatic was in satisfying him- and in this hateful house—that dear remem- cleft in the rock, they found little hat and a lier boroms with rapture, the merry laugh self in this way that nine-tenths of his fel- brance has left me, and my arms seem utter- basket half filled with pretty, white shells, the joyful shout of childhood; the opening low-men were dishonest if they only had the ly empty. Ah, when Frank returns I'll beg But Mamie was herself missing: forever promise of his youth; and she can never be him to take me back to that parish by the gone from sight. "Washed out to sea," brought to think him unworthy.

sea. They loved little children there—the was the general verdict, and giving creddear people and I'll beg him, for the sake ence to this, I would erecp to that lenely of the little broken toys I will show him for beach and beg the great, cruel waves to tell

> I had spent a weary afternoon on the cious words : " I will not leave you comfortappeared to shine forth most gloriously, and the waters, reflecting its splendor, were of little feet. With my eyes I followed a form like unto our Saviour, lifting in His arms the child who had journeyed unto trustingly hid her face in His bosom. It

When I returned that night, Frank knew I was too much impressed by the wondrous Mamie grew prettier every day of her life, vision to relate, just then, what I had seen but in answer to his inquiring glance, I ut "And how is our little angel without tered, heartily," "It is well !" After that night I seemed to come back to the realities of life; the color feturned to my cheeks "I's pwitty well; I dosen't fly yet my voice grew steady and strong; my face resumed its happy look, and I was again

To-day, however, I have been peculiarly tried. I have been brought face to face with my lonely life; I have been made to feel deeply my desolation, in the very satisfaction of others who congratulate them

not, for of such is the kingdom of heaven!

Mental Recreation

That simple, innocent amusements should enter more largely into the every day life of a grandma?" And looking up into his face, large class of people is daily growing more my lips said "Yes," while my heart cried and more evident. A contemporary says that mental diversion, mental exhibaration, The eventful day at last arrived. "Good mental release from the cares, business and bye, little angel," said Frank, hugging and worries of life are not only essential to the healthy condition of the mind, but they manever to see her again. "Good-bye, sweet- terially promote bodily vigor and physical church is prospering spiritually. He must heart, precious darling," I murmered, and well-being. It is the absence of these amusements that to so great an extent leads to so many socials evils, to many habits and practices which ruin the health and morals of our sons and daughters in a great many cases. If boys and girls from fifteen and upwards do shivered at the dreary order of things; I neck, she exclaimed: "Papa, oor angel" not find amusements at home, especially during the long winter evenings, they sigh for Frank's strength seemed to desert him, places where exhibaration can be found—the little sticky hands : I have glanced scornful- and I-why I caught my baby in my arms sons for the street, the daughters for the ly upon the high walls, so ignorant of the and begged to remain behind. "It is only dance, for the visiting of their associates music that little feet can make. Going to a child's prattle," said Frank, though much whose homes are more lively. Parents canattractive enough to keep their children We went back to the house and left the at home. The young people cannot be exgood people all standing around the door. pected to have books and newspapers als God knows if a prayer could have saved our ways in their hands, or sit demurely by the ing would have done it. But it was not to and stitching, and knitting. Games and pastimes should be more freely introduced "God sent our angel wings and she flew to into our families: There should be more Himself," was the telegram that greeted us off-hand visiting, of informal call, where one neighbor can drop into another neighbor's Was it easy to bear? Oh, it was not! hour after dark, spend an hour or two in would be come right away? Frank is so It was not !" I was crushed, overwhelmed, unrestrained social intercourse, without form or ceremony, for two or three nights

> A MOTHER'S LOVE .- A mother's love (says Washington Irving) is never exhausted; it



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